



The Build-Out line by US Soccer promotes playing the ball out of the back in a less pressured setting.

### Key Objectives for the **Build-Out Line**

- Develop our youth players to promote playing the ball out of the back in a less pressured setting
- Eliminate the long-punts at the youth level (U9-U10) and focus more on control and passing
- Develop the skills and abilities of our youth players
- Less emphasis placed on the result of the game

### Key Changes as a result of the **Build-Out Line**

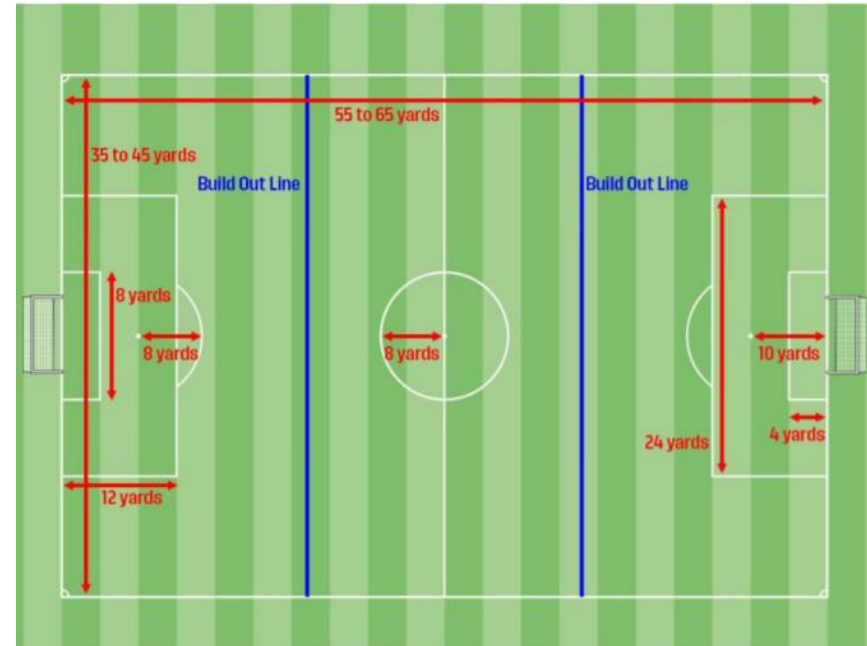
- The Build-Out line will be used to denote where offside offenses can be called
- Elimination of the punt or drop-kick from the goalkeeper
- Limitations on opponent pressure



The Build-Out line will need to be designated at each game and is measured equidistant between the penalty area and the halfway mark.

### How to create the Build-Out Line

- Measured equidistant between the penalty area and the halfway mark
  - Painted as hash marks across both sidelines and on each half of the field (preferably in a different color than the normal markings on the field)
  - Extending the hash marks going across the field and on each half of the field (preferably in a different color than the normal markings on the field and NOT a solid line)
  - Cones or flags that are at least 1 yard from the sideline (off the field)
  - Flat markers that are soft and playable (no hard markers) and can be round or rectangular in shape (1 yard off the field)
- If the Build-Out line is not present at game time, the referees are allowed to denote a Build-Out line
  - Referees are not allowed to use paint of any kind to establish a Build-Out line





The Build-Out line execution begins once the goalkeeper has clear possession of the ball or a goal kick is awarded.

### How to execute the Build-Out Line

- Once the goalkeeper has clear possession of the ball or the ball is out of play for a goal kick, all opposing players must begin to retreat back to be behind the Build-Out line
- Once the ball is put into play or released from the goalkeeper's hands, the opposing players are then allowed to resume normal play and attack/defend
- If the goalkeeper obtains clear possession of the ball and decides to immediately put the ball back into play, the opposing players do not need to retreat behind the Build-Out line to attack/defend and can resume normal play
  - However, initially upon clear possession of the ball by the goalkeeper, the opposing players need to begin retreating to the Build-Out line
  - Additionally, goal kicks require opposing players to begin retreating to the Build-Out line
  - Remember: On a goal kick the ball is not in play until it has been kicked AND leaves the penalty area
- Goal keepers are not allowed to punt or drop kick the ball



The Build-Out line can be managed by the Referees with offenses/cautions as described.

### What are the offense with regard to the **Build-Out Line**

- If the goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick (IFK) is awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
- If the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, the IFK will be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.
- If an IFK or DFK is awarded to the defending team the opposing team is not required to retreat behind the Build-Out line. Instead, normal minimum required distances would apply.
- If the attacking team commits an offense where they did not retreat behind the build-out line, an IFK will be awarded to the defending team from the spot of the offense.
- The goalkeeper 6 second rule begins once the opposing team fully retreats behind the Build-Out line. The Referees manage the 6 second rule at their discretion.

*The Referees can manage the situation with misconduct if deemed appropriate.*